

REMARKS

The last Office Action has been carefully considered.

It is noted that the drawings, the abstract of the disclosure, the disclosure and the claims were objected and rejected by the Examiner.

Also, claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) over the patent to Folberth.

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over this reference.

Claims 1-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Schill in view of the patent to Zimmer.

Claims 14-15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over the patent to Schill in view of the patent to Zimmer.

After carefully considering the Examiner's grounds for formal objections and rejections, applicant has amended the abstract of the

disclosure, the disclosure and the claims. It is believed that the grounds for the formal objections and rejections are eliminated.

The Examiner's rejection of the claims over the art has been carefully considered.

In connection with this, applicant has amended claim 1 to more clearly define the present invention. In particular it has been stated, in addition to the original features, that the axle 16, 18, 20, is arranged at a side of the steering lever 22, 24, 26 which faces away of a wiper blade. Also, additional claim 16 has been added which defines a wiper securing system.

It is respectfully submitted that the new features of the present invention which are now defined in claims 1 and 16 are not disclosed in the prior art and can not be derived from it as a matter of obviousness.

The patent to Folberth applied by the Examiner discloses a windshield cleaner. This reference does not disclose and does not provide any hint or suggestion that the steering lever in a mounting direction can be braced on a bearing shoulder on an axle. The bearing points of the steering lever in this reference as can be seen from Figure 1, are completely different

than the bearing point of the apparatus and system in accordance with the present invention as defined in claims 1 and 16. The reference does not disclose a steering wheel which is braced in a mounting direction on a bearing shoulder on an axle arranged at a side of the steering lever which faces away of a wiper blade.

It is therefore believed to be clear that this reference does not teach the new features of the present invention as defined in claims 1 and 16 and also these features can not be derived from it as a matter of obviousness.

Therefore it is respectfully submitted that the rejection of the original claims under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 based on the patent to Folberth should be considered as no longer tenable and should be withdrawn.

The patent to Shill discloses a four-joint wiper arm for a windshield wiper system of a motor vehicle. As can be seen from Figure 3 of this reference, an inner cone 10 is provided at an end of the steering lever and can be placed on a shaft with an outer cone. A bearing shoulder which is similar to the bearing shoulder of the apparatus and system of the applicant's invention would completely contradict the purpose of a cone,

namely a fixed connection between the shaft and the steering lever. It is therefore believed that a person skilled in the art who familiarize himself with the teaching of the patent to Shill would not arrive at the applicant's invention by any means.

The patent to Zimmer applied by the Examiner in combination with the patent to Shill also does not teach the new features of the present invention as defined now in claims 1 and 16. Therefore, any combination of these two references would not lead to the applicant's invention as well.

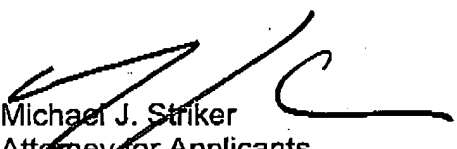
In view of the above presented remarks and amendments, it is believed that claims 1 and 16 should be considered as patentably distinguishing over the art and should be allowed.

As for the dependent claims, these claims depend on claim 1, they share its presumably allowable features, and therefore it is respectfully submitted that they should be allowed as well.

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application is most respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner require or consider it advisable that the specification, claims and/or drawings be further amended or corrected in formal respects in order to place this case in condition for final allowance, then it is respectfully requested that such amendments or corrections be carried out by Examiner's Amendment, and the case be passed to issue. Alternatively, should the Examiner feel that a personal discussion might be helpful in advancing this case to allowance, he is invited to telephone the undersigned (at 631-549-4700).

Respectfully submitted,



Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 27233